

NAVAL HOSPITAL
LONG BEACH
CALIFORNIA



COMMISSIONING
CEREMONY

1 FEBRUARY 1967



Vice Admiral R.B. Brown, MC, USN
Surgeon General, U.S. Navy



Rear Admiral R.O. Canada, MC, USN
Deputy and Assistant Chief of
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Rear Admiral Frank A. Brandley, USN
Commandant, Eleventh Naval District



Rear Admiral C.B. Jones, USN
Commander, Naval Base
Los Angeles, Calif.

INTRODUCTION

This modern, five story, 350-bed hospital is located on 30.5 acres of land proffered to the Navy by the City of Long Beach. It is ideally located at the intersection of the San Gabriel Freeway and Carson Street which is easily accessible from all the major military activities in the greater Los Angeles area.

The Naval Hospital, Long Beach, will replace the Hospital Ship, USS Haven, which has provided the only Navy hospital facilities available in this area since November 1957 when the Naval Hospital, Corona was disestablished and transferred to the Veterans Administration.

Both inpatient and outpatient care will be provided by the new hospital. It will require a staff of 109 officers, 216 enlisted personnel and 208 civilian employees.

The initial cost of construction and outfitting was seven and one half million dollars. It is estimated that over \$250,000 annually will be spent for supplies and services on the local market. Wages and military pay will add another \$3.2 million per year to the local economy.



Captain Paul R. Engle, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Long Beach

Captain Engle was born in Petoskey, Michigan in 1916, received his MD Degree from the University of Michigan in 1940, entered the Navy in 1941 and has served on active duty since that time. During World War II he served as medical officer aboard the USS Detroit. His assignments have included the Naval Hospital, Bethesda and Naval Hospital, Guam as Chief of Medicine 1948-49, post graduate study in Tropical Medicine at the Tulane University 1950, Resident Course at the Armed Forces Industrial College in 1955 and 1956, Force Medical Officer, Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Director, Physical Qualifications and Medical Records Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery 1959-1965. On 16 October 1965 upon recommissioning of the USS Repose (AH-16), he assumed command of the Naval Hospital. Upon being relieved and detached he came to Long Beach, to place in commission and become the first Commanding Officer of the Naval Hospital, Long Beach. Captain Engle wears the American Defense Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one Star, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one Star, World War II Victory Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal.

P R O G R A M
C O M M I S S I O N I N G C E R E M O N Y
N A V A L H O S P I T A L , L O N G B E A C H , C A L I F O R N I A
2 P . M . , W E D N E S D A Y , 1 F E B R U A R Y 1 9 6 7

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| MUSICAL OPENING | Commander Cruiser Destroyer Force, Pacific Unit Band |
| INVOCATION | LCDR. R.L. Bigler, ChC, USN |
| INTRODUCTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS | Captain H. von Radesky, MSC, USN |
| REMARKS BY OFFICER IN CHARGE OF CONSTRUCTION | Rear Admiral R.E. Wooding, CEC, USN |
| ACCEPTANCE OF HOSPITAL BY SURGEON GENERAL | Vice Admiral R.B. Brown, MC, USN |
| COMMISSIONING CEREMONY | |
| COMMANDING OFFICER ASSUMES COMMAND | Captain Paul R. Engle, MC, USN |
| EXECUTIVE OFFICER ORDERS THE FIRST WATCH SET | Captain F.B. Carlson, MC, USN |
| ADDRESS BY GUEST SPEAKER | Honorable Craig Hosmer, Member of Congress |
| BENEDICTION | LCDR. R.L. Bigler, ChC, USN |
| MUSICAL FINALE | Commander Cruiser Destroyer Force, Pacific Unit Band |

O P E N H O U S E

HIGHLIGHTS

The Congress in September 1962 authorized and appropriated \$7,225,000 for construction of the Naval Hospital, Long Beach. The site for the hospital was proffered to the Navy by the City of Long Beach.

Design of the hospital was by the local architectural firm of Hugh Gibbs and Donald Gibbs, AIA, under the general supervision of the Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

Ground was broken in April 1964 and construction was started soon after by the Electronic and Missile Facilities, Incorporated of Valley Stream, New York.

The hospital is a five floor reinforced concrete structure of 215,000 square feet with a capacity of 350 beds in one, two, four and five bed rooms. The entire structure is air conditioned and includes such labor saving devices as a pneumatic tube system, central dictation system, conveyor system for movement of supplies, and a pocket radio system for paging staff members. Television receivers are provided in the patients rooms and in lounge areas.

The service departments and machinery spaces are located on the ground floor of the hospital. The first floor houses the administrative offices, the outpatient clinics, diagnostic services and the surgical suite. The second to fourth floors contain the nursing units, including individual intensive care units for medical and surgical patients. The design of the nursing units is such that service traffic is separated from patient and visitor traffic.

The officer in charge of construction for the hospital has been Rear Admiral L.C. Cox, CEC, USN; the Resident Officer in charge of construction was Commander C. Curione, CEC, USN, until relieved by Commander F.M. Briggs, CEC, USN. The Liaison Officer for the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has been Captain H. von Radesky, MSC, USN.

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